

29 May 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Central Reference Service
SUBJECT: Security Classification Act of 1975

1. Attached is a draft discussion of specific points as set forth in the subject bill. Only those paragraphs where I had some comment are covered.

2. In answer to the specific questions posed in [redacted] memorandum, I have the following overall comments:

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a. The provisions for assigning and exercising classifying authority do not appear burdensome. In fact, I believe there is more control provided for in EO 11652. One paragraph (F) in this part of the law (c) (4) does offer some hope for classifying finished intelligence that is not otherwise available in later sections of the bill.

b. The classification criteria as written is not adequate to protect DDI production to the same extent it is protected today. The criteria, if applied with strict interpretation, would not cover the majority of DDI production -- particularly that of OCI, OER, OPR, OGCR, and CRS.

c. The law provides for automatic downgrading and declassification at specific intervals. The exemptions provided seem to cover only Top Secret material with no recourse for keeping Secret and Confidential material classified longer than two years. This would cause the Directorate problems and not adequately protect DDI information.

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[redacted]
Chief, Europe Division/ISG

Attachment: As stated